

Empower New Haven, Inc. (ENH)

Organization Description

Empower New Haven, Inc. (ENH) is the organizational authority for the New Haven, Connecticut Round II Federal Employment Zone. Empower New Haven is a federally-funded entity with the express purpose of facilitating or creating processes and practices that provide sustainable, measurable improvements in the economic status and quality of life of individuals, families, and businesses within the Empowerment Zone communities.

Project Description

Empower New Haven, Inc. will establish and operate the New Haven Non-Profit Academy, a technical assistance training and sub-award project for capacity building of non-profit, faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) serving the New Haven, CT, Empowerment Zone (EZ) and addressing issues such as: homelessness, at-risk youth, prisoner re-entry, substance abuse, workforce housing, unemployment, and the elderly and disabled. The mission of the New Haven Non-Profit Academy is to increase the capacity and effectiveness of non-profits serving EZ communities through the provision of one-on-one technical assistance, class-based training, and mini-grants.

Geographic Scope of Project

Communities within the New Haven Empowerment Zone.

Partnering Organizations

- The Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
- The United Way of Greater New Haven

Sub-Awards

Twenty participants will be chosen for the Academy through an open RFP process. Applicants will be asked to submit a formal application which will be rated by a Selection Committee which will be responsible for choosing the twenty program participants. Upon the completion of the New Haven Non-Profit Academy classes, the participants will be asked to submit work plan proposals for capacity-building grants of up to \$30,000 for large organizations and up to \$5,000 for small non-profits, community organizations and faith-based groups for a total of \$350,000 in sub-award grants per year.

Project Objectives

Specific project objectives include:

1. Serve 20 non-profits and resident groups that currently serve or seek to serve EZ residents;
2. Aid participants in diversifying their funding sources and in developing a sustainable fundraising plan for their organizations;
3. Aid participants in increasing the productivity and effectiveness of their organization's staff and board of directors;
4. Develop opportunities for net-

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working and building collaborations among New Haven institutions;

5. Aid community resident groups and faith-based organizations in attaining non-profit status;
6. Produce tangible improvements in the capacity and effectiveness of participant organizations.

Project Strategies

- Provide a combination of comprehensive capacity building classes/training/information sessions (i.e., fiscal operations, strategic planning, and board development), technical assis-



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tance, and a mini-grant award program for continued capacity building through the New Haven Non-Profit Academy. Participants will attend a series of 14 workshops. Workshops will be held twice a month. In addition, the participants will receive individual technical assistance. The Academy will culminate in the awarding of mini-grants of up to \$5,000 for small non-profits and community groups and up to \$30,000 for larger organizations for continued capacity building.

Grant Award Amount

\$473,077